**The Tailorbird**

The future of all birds depends on their eggs hatching safely. Most birds lay their eggs in a nest, where they are kept warm until they hatch. One of the cleverest nest-builders is the **Tailorbird**. These songbirds are 10–14 cm (about 5 inches) long, and live in the tropical areas of China, Malaysia, India and the Philippines.

Tailorbirds make their nest by sewing leaves together! They take a large leaf, fold it together, and punch holes in the edge with their beaks. Then they sew it together using strips of vegetable fibre, wool or spiders' silk, making the leaf into a cup shape. They can even join lengths of thread together and tie knots! When they have finished sewing, the birds build a nest of grass, down and fine hair inside the leaf and lay their eggs in it. There they are kept safe until the baby birds hatch. The parents then feed them until they are able to fly and look after themselves.

**How did tailorbirds learn to sew the leaves together by punching holes, and tying knots in thread?**

**Could they have slowly evolved their method of nest-building?** If they didn't get it right the first time, their nest would have collapsed and the eggs been smashed. Most birds don't go to all this trouble, so why do tailorbirds? We believe God created them to build their wonderful nests so that we could marvel at His design.

**Creation doesn't take time!**

People who believe in evolution say lots of time was needed for this to happen. But if God created everything, time wasn't necessary. He is so powerful that He only needed to speak! “God said, ‘Let the earth be filled with animals.’ And let each produce more of its own kind.’ And it happened.” (Genesis 1:24). It was not at all difficult for God to create the world and universe in six days. God didn’t need to rest, but His six days of creation followed by a day of rest were a pattern for our 24-hour day.

**He only had to speak!**

When Jesus came to earth, He showed us how God works by performing miracles. He raised a dead man named Lazarus back to life, stopped a terrible storm on a lake, and created enough food to feed over 5,000 people from five small loaves and two fish — and He only had to speak. “Jesus said, ‘Feed the five thousand’ and the five loaves were multiplied and became enough for all.” (Mark 6:38). Bible references from the International Children’s Bible, New Century Version (Anglicised Edition). © copyright 1991 by Word (UK) Ltd. Milton Keynes, England. Used by permission. Includes graphics from Clipart.com and Planet-Akira AG.

**Jesus feeds 5,000.**

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ROCKS CAN FORM FAST!

Until about 200 years ago, most geologists (people who study rocks) believed that most of the earth’s rocks were formed during the great flood of Noah’s time and that the earth was quite young. Then some of them began to suggest that rocks took long ages to form as trickles of mud slowly built up and became hard. As I watch these two different kinds of birds, I can’t help being amazed and rather amused that evolutionists tell us birds evolved from dinosaurs. I picture a dinosaur in my mind, and compare it with the swallows swooping in the sky. It just doesn’t make sense! How did the front limbs of dinosaurs turn into wings? How did their scales turn into feathers? How did they learn to soar into the sky? The evolutionists can’t tell us. The Bible tells us that “God also made every bird that flies.” (Genesis 1: 21). I think it’s much easier to believe that than the evolutionists’ story, don’t you?

The Bible has the answer!

There were no people around when the world began. But God was there; He not only created everything, but He gave us a record in the Bible. Ancient people made carefully written family records, which they passed on to their children. In the book of Genesis in the Bible there are two lists of people’s names, recording how old each person was when their first son was born. Beginning with Adam, who was created when the world was only six days old, it leads right up to Abraham, who lived about 4,000 years ago. Since God inspired the people who wrote these records, we can be quite sure that they are accurate. In 1650, Irish Archbishop James Ussher carefully worked through these records, and calculated that God had created the world in 4004 BC. This makes the earth just over 6,000 years old. Many people have poked fun at Ussher’s date, but he was a very clever man. One has ever proved him wrong and, today, many creation scientists believe his date of creation was fairly accurate. There is lots of evidence to support it too. Archaeologists have discovered that humans first began to write, build cities, make musical instruments, tame animals, grow crops and use ploughs to turn over the soil within the last 6,000–7,000 years (the Bible mentions some of these in Genesis chapter four). Evolutionists claim that modern-type people appeared on earth at least 200,000 years ago, but it seems impossible that humans could have taken 194,000 years to discover all these things! Also, if people had really been around that long, we would expect to find millions of skeletons of people buried all over the earth. But we don’t.

This evidence suggests that our world is only a few thousand years old, just as the Bible teaches. God made the world just right for us; He didn’t need millions of years to prepare it.

Nature Notes by the Editor

It is a beautiful sunny summer afternoon, with hardly a cloud in the sky. High above the fields I see swallows swooping and diving as they chase insects. I marvel at their clever aerobatics, and remind myself that in a few weeks these tiny birds will fly thousands of miles to South Africa, where they will spend the winter. Then I spot a larger bird — a buzzard — high in the sky. Like a glider it rides on the thermals (rising air currents), just flapping its wings now and again. Buzzards can spot an animal such as a mouse from high in the sky. Like a glider it rides on the thermals (rising air currents), just flapping its wings now and again. Buzzards can spot an animal such as a mouse from high in the sky.

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